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John Scheepers, Inc.
522 FIFTH AVENUE
New York

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JOHN SCHEEPERS, INC.

DAHLIAS



"Daybreak"—Residence of Judge Marean at Green's Farms, Conn.

JOHN SCHEEPERS, INC.
522 FIFTH AVENUE
NEW YORK



Mrs. I. de Ver Warner

THE SEASON'S EVENT *to* AMERICAN HORTICULTURE



"**M**AREAN" Dahlias, for years the sensation of the American Dahlia Shows, are at last available to the public and, through the choice of Judge Marean himself, they are to be distributed through "The House of Scheepers." Dahlia enthusiasts are aware that Judge Josiah T. Marean, whose creations at his home, "DAYBREAK," Green's Farms, Connecticut, are the most superb in existence today, has never before given away,—much less sold,—his Dahlias.

They form a monument to the creative genius of a persevering and patient fancier. Study of the intimate family life of the Judge reveals his great love for the Dahlia and his inherent desire to create an aristocratic race of this flower, in which he has achieved a success of which he may well be proud and satisfied. He would harbor no plant that would not produce an exceptionally good flower, no variety that would not grow freely with strong, straight stems, and produce abundant blossoms. Mrs. Marean, equally enthusiastic about these wonderful creations, would ably assist with a remarkable gift of knowledge of color, discerning great merit where present, and with her help the super-aristocrats would be selected and those named in honor of members and close friends of the family and as fitting titles would occur to her.

Judge Marean's gardener, John Harding, who knows his business in the creation and selection of Dahlias as few people do, and who is a most intelligent man, has done his share, and will continue to do so, to create the most wonderful new varieties; the result has been that in his country estate in Green's Farms, Conn., the Judge, at the age of 78 years, may be found in season receiving thousands of Garden Club members and flower lovers who visit his gardens from all parts of the country to admire his Dahlias; rare blossoms of every shade and type, standing defiantly and boldly, flamboyant and dashing, replete with evidence of their fiery Spanish ancestry, arrogantly amazing them with their huge flowers of most wonderful colorings, standing soldierly on strong, stout stems, produced in quantity on extraordinarily free growing plants, while others hold up their heads daintily, looking with loyal admiration, almost with reverence, upon those paragons, their beautifully colored petals opened wide with careless abandon, in their effort to reach wide. Coming suddenly upon this lavish display of rich beauty through the stone arch leading to one of the Judge's gardens, one feels a shock at the sheer magnificence of it all.

After rising rapidly to a place of prominence, these Dahlia creations stand now supreme as the pinnacle of perfection; it is for this reason and after great

effort, that the Judge has been convinced that his productions should be left to posterity, and I have persuaded him finally, after much argumentation, that the results of his creative skill should be open to public purchase; but merely the SURPLUS of his own garden, only stock grown by himself, in his most wonderful varieties, and NOT INDISCRIMINATELY PROPAGATED STOCK, are now therefore offered to the public through my agency. Realizing what is often the result of propagation, NO PLANTS will be offered; ONLY BULB DIVISIONS from clumps of which the plants have proven their merit, will be distributed. This is most important and should be carefully observed.

Shipments of tubers will be made direct to the clients by the Judge himself in April. Orders should be sent to our executive offices for booking, which will be filled in the order in which they are received; it is therefore advisable that reservations are made at once, as, of course, available stock is limited.

JOHN SCHEEPERS



Left to Right:

Theodora Buckley Ⓜ Mrs. I de Ver Warner Ⓜ
Cleopatra Ⓜ Venus Ⓜ

A letter from Judge Marean

Judge Marean's willingness to sell from his surplus stock and his own enthusiasm for the specimens it contains are explained in the following letter from him:

"DAYBREAK" Green's Farms, Conn.

Dear Mr. Scheepers:

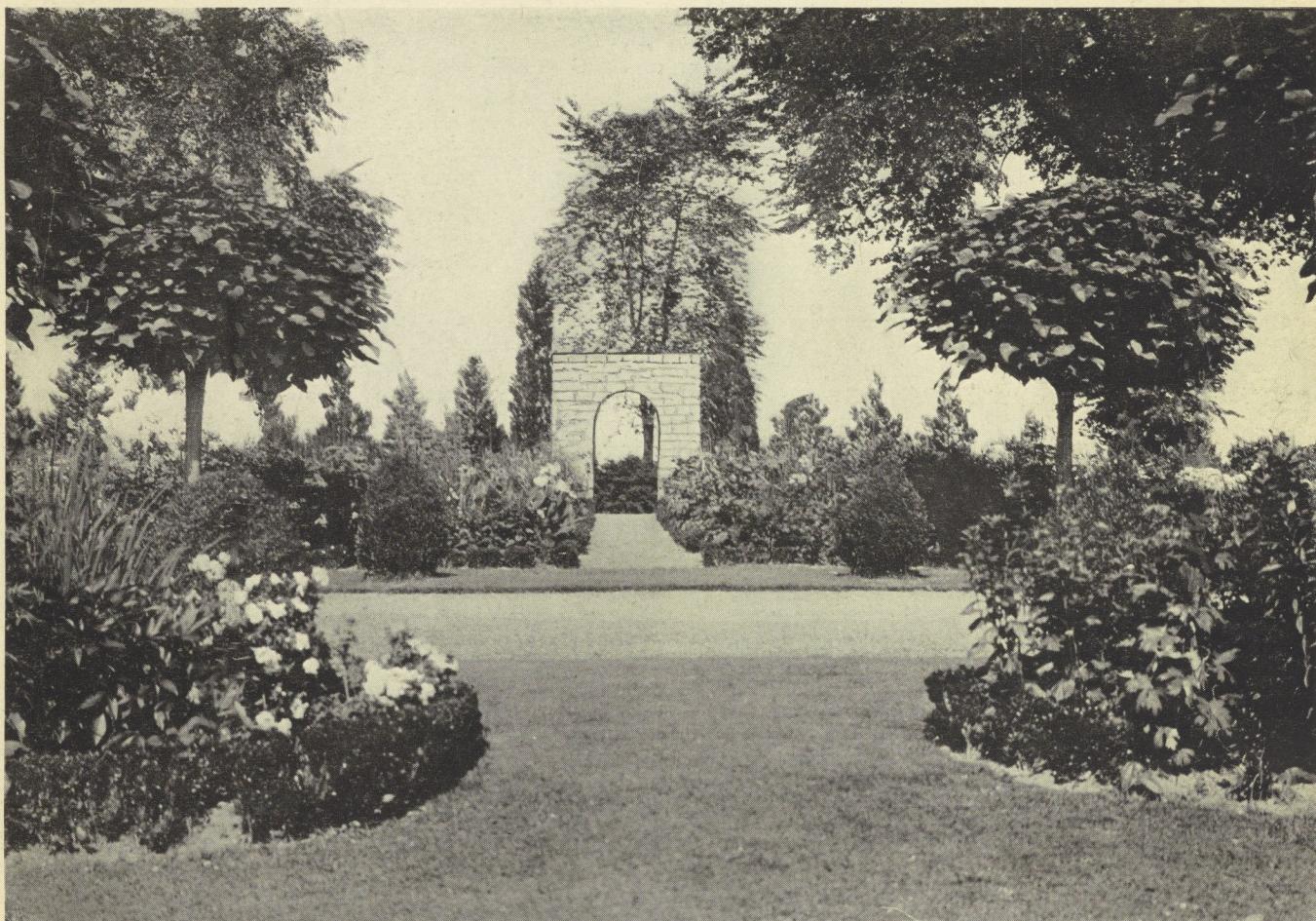
I send you enclosed a list of my dahlias; I am not, as you know, a grower for profit, but so many applications have come to me from would-be purchasers, it seems a sin to destroy this surplus. For the past twelve years I have, each year, raised two or three thousand seedlings, among which I have usually found two or three in size, quality and beauty worth trying out.

I agree with you, that we should confine ourselves to the really superior things; that will mean in time a confidence that, whatever we offer, people can afford to buy on our recommendation.

I find it impossible to give any effective descriptions of these flowers. They present every possible variety of form and color; none of them is a pure prismatic color and each has its indescribable individuality of form.

(Signed) JOSIAH T. MAREAN.

* Pronounced "Maryann."



Entrance to Gardens

"Daybreak"—Residence of Judge Marean at Green's Farms, Conn.



Judge Marean

"DAYBREAK," GREEN'S FARMS, CONN.
SEPTEMBER, 1920.

MR. JOHN SCHEEPERS,
522 FIFTH AVENUE,
NEW YORK CITY.

Dear Mr. Scheepers:—

In offering my dahlias to the public I wish to say to them, that I am an amateur like themselves and not a commercial grower although the new definitions made by the American Dahlia Society classify me as such, making it impossible any longer to compete in the amateur class.

For about twelve years past I have amused myself by growing each year at my country place at Green's Farms, three or four thousand seedlings using only the best seeds gatherable from my own plants. This scheme I am still pursuing. It affords me the same sort of excitement which as a boy I found in my matinal visits to the fish lines set the night before. Now and then something worth while was pulled out of the water.

A great man is born once in a while but the majority of children whatever their parentage turn out to be just plain "folks." Dahlias follow the same law and out of the mass I have each year found only a few worth saving. This number after being tried out is further diminished by selection. The result has been the development of more than fifty new varieties of extraordinary size and beauty both of form and color. These have been grown every year only for garden effect in my ornamental gardens side by side with the whole range of other effective flowers.

Last year I found myself for the first time with a surplus beyond my requirements for this year's planting and I have through you sold to amateurs only a few hundred bulbs.

I offer now for sale, to amateurs exclusively, only my own productions and only the surplus of my gardens which I do not require for next year's planting. The supply is of course quite limited and orders can be filled only to that extent, and should be filled in the order in which they have been received. For obvious reasons no deliveries can be made of any variety until two years after its advent in the seedling garden.

It is impossible to adequately describe dahlias as to color or form. None is of any pure prismatic color, and few adhere strictly in form to any of the types which have been arbitrarily adopted for their description. I have divided my dahlias into two classes—those of superlative and unrivaled merit for both size and beauty and those which fall a little short of that but are yet worthy associates, differing only as great ability differs from genius.

I exhibited for the first time at the American Dahlia Society show in New York City in 1915. I was ruled out of competition because my plants were not named except by my name and numbers. In the following year having named them I competed only in the 50 Class and received 1st prize. In 1917 and 1918, I competed in the 50 and also in the 25 and 12 Class and both years received 1st prize in each Class. In 1919, I received 1st prize in the 50 and 25 Classes; also 1st prize for the largest flower in the show, 1st prize for the most meritorious display in the show besides other minor 1st prizes.

I offer my dahlias to the public on their record and on my personal assurance of their merit, and if at the end of the season any purchaser is dissatisfied with his purchase and will return me the clump, and all its increase, cuttings or other propagation, transportation paid, with an affidavit of its identity I will return the price, though if the plant has failed to make good it will not be the fault of the plant but of its culture.

I regret that all dahlia lovers do not see my dahlias blooming in my private gardens and I cordially invite them to do so.

Yours faithfully,
(Signed) JOSIAH T. MAREAN.



Left to Right:

E. T. Bedford ⓠ Judge Marean ⓠ
Le Toreador ⓠ

Judge Josiah T. Marean's Wonderful Dahlia Creations Produced by himself in his gardens at Green's Farms, Conn.

CLASS No. ONE

Varieties of Superlative and Unrivaled Merit

The heights are given conservatively and for comparison when making plantings for display; all varieties will attain much greater height particularly if grown for that purpose.

Varieties marked with an asterisk () are not available until Spring 1922 but reservations should be made now.*

"AGNES HAVILAND"

Decorative—Large flowers on strong stiff stems; of perfect type; color a fine rose pink slightly suffused with yellow. A very fine variety. 5 to 6 ft.

Price for strong bulb division, \$10

"ARTUS"

Peony-flowered—The flowers are held erect on stout stem; the color is a most effective Vermilion; it is a very free bloomer. Most recommendable. 5 to 6 ft.

Price for strong bulb division, \$10

"CATHERINE WILCOX"

Decorative—Flowers not as large as others in the collection but refined of form and of a most attractive color; white, points of petals tipped cerise; a very strong grower and a free bloomer. 4 feet.

Price for strong bulb division, \$10

"CHARM"

Decorative—One of the most admired Dahlias; grows to a height of from 4 to 5 ft., producing very freely flowers on strong, stout, wiry stems; the color is a most pleasing combination of burnt orange shading to yellow; combines beautifully with flowers of "Judge Marean."

Price for strong bulb division, \$10

"CHENANGO"

Decorative—This fine variety is a very free bloomer, flowering continuously throughout the season; the large flowers stand on stiff stems and are of a vermillion red color. Height 5 ft.

Price for strong bulb division, \$10

"CLEOPATRA"

Peony-flowered—This variety produces exceedingly large flowers on wiry stems which gracefully

bend over slightly yet hold up their heads, proud of their great beauty and fine form. The color is a fine shade of yellow, the reverse of the petals being of a tangerine shade which creates a beautiful color combination. For effect in the garden this is unquestionably one of the best. Height 5 ft.

Price for strong bulb division, \$10

"DAKOTA"

Decorative—An extraordinary exhibition flower, as impressive in the garden as in the exhibition rooms; enormous flowers standing erect on strong, stout stems, facing the garden boldly. The color may be described as being the shade of flame; it is a powerful flower, distinct and a prize-winner. Vigorous grower in the extreme and a very free bloomer. Height 4 to 5 ft.

Price for strong bulb division, \$10

"DIANA"

Peony-flowered—This is another most effective Dahlia for the garden; particularly valuable grown in company of Cleopatra; fine scarlet flowers of large size on strong stems, plants averaging conservatively measured, 6 ft. and more. Flowers at its best in late season.

Price for strong bulb division, \$10

"E. T. BEDFORD"

Decorative—Wonderful exhibition flowers of a shade most difficult to describe are carried proudly aloft by long strong stems, produced very freely on a plant growing to an average height of 5 ft. The color is purple with a lighter shading, giving it the appearance of a silvered purple tone. Should be in every exhibition collection and in every garden where good Dahlias grow.

Price for strong bulb division, \$15



Mephistopheles

"HERCULES"

**Decorative*—Quilled; of enormous size; the beautifully-colored flowers are carried proudly on straight, strong, stout stems; the color scheme is a symphony of tangerine and deep yellow. The reverse of the petals is shaded tangerine and they are so placed, that they blend in a most attractive way with the deep yellow of the flower. The average height of the plant is from 4 to 6 ft. Available in Spring 1922, in limited quantity.

Price for strong bulb division, \$10

"JUDGE ALTON B. PARKER"

**Decorative*—This again is a wonderful exhibition variety; of true form, very large flowers grow freely on strong erect stems; the color is magnificent and can only be described as a Golden Buff. The average height of the plant is five feet. Available in Spring 1922, in limited quantity.

Price for strong bulb division, \$10

"JUDGE MAREAN"

Decorative—Very large flower of perfect type and of a color most difficult to describe. Mrs. Josiah T. Marean, the Judge's wife, named this unforgettable Dahlia after him, considering it then one of the finest Dahlias ever created. There is a riot of color, ever changing as the flower ages, but of shades that all blend most beautifully. There is glowing Salmon Pink, Red, Iridescent Orange, Yellow and Pure Gold. It is a most profuse bloomer, flowering continuously, being at its best in August; the flower stands on a long straight, strong stem, facing the garden boldly, seemingly well aware of its magnificent effect. This variety was awarded The Special Grand Champion Award at the American Institute Show in 1919. Average height, 4 feet.

Price for strong bulb division, \$10

"JUPITER"

Peony-flowered—In this very fine variety the petals are quilled; the flowers which stand erect on stiff, wiry stems, attain an enormous size and are great for the Exhibition table. The color is a mahogany self and draws immediate attention in a collection. Strong grower and good producer, the plant averages in height 6 feet.

Price for strong bulb division, \$10

"LADY BETTY"

Decorative—This very beautiful Dahlia was so named in honor of the Judge's wife, being a great favorite selected by her from his thousands of seedlings. It is a very large, finely formed flower, produced on strong stiff stem, of a most attractive and lovely color. It is creamy white but a pinkish suffusion is spread as a haze over

the flower. It should grace every fine collection. Average height, 5 feet.

Price for strong bulb division, \$10

"LA GROSSE BÊTE"

Decorative—Enormous flower which makes itself felt in the garden; held straight upon strong stems, and of a cerise self color, it makes a splendid exhibition variety. It is a very strong grower, of an average height of five feet.

Price for strong bulb division, \$10

"LA TOSCA"

**Decorative*—Very long, wiry strong stems produce, held erect, extra large, flat flowers of a most attractive color, mauve shading to white. Strong producer and good grower, attaining an average height, conservatively taken, of 6 feet. This variety will not be available until 1922.

Price for strong bulb division, \$10

"LE TOREADOR"

Decorative—A true type of crimson color; the finest of its color so far produced; flowers of this variety have kept longer in vases than any other variety that has come to our observation. It is a very free bloomer having strong wiry stems; at the Exhibitions, it draws and holds attention. Should be in every Dahlia collection as it is of unquestionable merit, splendid for cutting, unrivaled for shipping. Average height, 5 feet.

Price for strong bulb division, \$10

"MRS. JOHN T. SCHEEPERS"

**Decorative*—We are very proud that the Judge has selected this beautiful new seedling from thousands of others and has named it in honor of Mrs. John Scheepers, wife of the President of this company. The flowers are very large, produced on strong, stout stems. Upon opening, they are of a clear canary yellow which is gradually changed to a beautiful delicate shade of pink suffusion on the outer petals.

A very free bloomer and vigorous grower. One of the gems of the purest water in this collection. Average height 5 feet. Not available until 1922.

Price for strong bulb division, \$15

"MRS. JOSIAH T. MAREAN"

**Peony-flowered*—Perfect type; this is the most handsome of all varieties in the collection and has been named by the Judge in honor of his wife. The flowers are of extra large size carried on strong wiry stems; the color is unrivaled as to merit for beauty; old rose with golden shadings at base of flower. Profuse bloomer and vigorous grower. An exceptional exhibition variety that will be loved by all. Height average 5 feet. Not available until 1922.

Price for strong bulb division, \$15



Mrs. Josiah T. Marean

"MABEL THATCHER"

**Decorative*—Large flowers of a pale yellow shade, are borne on stiff strong stems; they are of finest type and considered the highest perfection attained in this particular shade. Average height, 4 to 5 feet. Not obtainable until 1922.

Price for strong bulb division, \$10

"MEPHISTOPHELES"

Hybrid Decorative—Aristocrat of them all; huge flowers of a vivid scarlet supported by unusually strong stems, which hold them erect and unbending. This is considered today by connoisseurs the best and most magnificent Dahlia in existence and will undoubtedly hold this place of honor for some time to come.

Of superlative merit it was the sensation at the recent Dahlia Exhibitions and will make this same impression wherever it will be grown and shown.

As an Exhibition variety it has no peer; enormous flowers held perfectly erect on gigantic, stout stems, are produced in great quantity on plants of extraordinary vigor which bring forth more flowerstalks than any variety known.

It seems impossible to fittingly describe this floral wonder; it is a masterpiece, the insolent beauty of which makes itself felt through its regal appearance in the garden as in the exhibition rooms. Being in a Class by itself, like the other Marean Dahlias, the Judge magnanimously displayed these wonderful flowers in a NON-COMPETITIVE way at the 1920 Dahlia Show, and was awarded a Special Gold Medal for them.

The color is ruby red showing infinitesimal golden yellow points at the very ends of some petals, thereby greatly enhancing its effectiveness.

Height conservatively measured averages from 7 to 8 feet; plants have reached the height of 14 feet in the Judge's gardens.

Price for strong bulb division, \$25

"MRS. I. de VER WARNER"

Decorative—A blossom of soft orchid coloring seldom appearing in the gay garb of the Dahlia family. For its beautifully charming color, for the very large blooms and for its very long, strong, wiry stems, this variety was the cynosure of all eyes of the Dahlia critics at the recent Exhibitions; of a refined, lovely sweet color, deep mauve pink, of fine form, a true type, impressive for its very large size, it leads without question all varieties in existence today, with exception of the more gorgeous and bolder Mephistopheles, which is of a different genre altogether.

Extremely strong grower, very free bloomer, splendid for exhibition and for the garden it is of the greatest merit. Average height, 5 to 6 feet.

Price for strong bulb division, \$15

"OVER THERE"

**Decorative*—This is a most attractive Dahlia of unusual merit; it is a true self color, very deep salmon; the flowers are large, set on strong stems. It is an extra strong grower and splendid producer. Average height 4 to 5 feet. Not available until 1922.

Price for strong bulb division, \$10

"PEG O' ME HEART"

Peony-flowered—Most lovely creation; large flowers on strong wiry stems are produced in abundance on strong plants. The color is very refined, sweet and beautiful. It is old rose with a slight shading of golden yellow. Extremely attractive; a truly lovely flower. Average height 5 to 6 feet.

Price for strong bulb division, \$10

"SEPTEMBER MORN"

Peony-flowered—Quite correctly named by Mrs. Marean being a variety that is at its best after the middle of September. It is of enormous size, the flowers carried well on a straight stiff stem. The color again is most charming, being cerise with a silvery sheen. Average height 5 feet.

Price for strong bulb division, \$10

"SHENANDOAH"

Decorative—This is a splendid September Dahlia which succeeds especially well if given a slightly shaded position in the garden. Strong stems carry large flowers of a wine color which is most attractive. A very fine variety. Height average, 4 to 5 feet.

Price for strong bulb division, \$10

"SUPERBA"

**Decorative*—This is a most effective variety, both in the garden as in the exhibition rooms. It is a very strong grower and a free bloomer, producing large flowers on exceptionally strong stiff stems. The color is golden yellow with darker reverse. Average height 5 feet. Not available until 1922.

Price for strong bulb division, \$10

"THE BASHFUL GIANT"

**Decorative*—This is unquestionably the largest flowering Dahlia ever produced; the gigantic blooms are excellent for exhibition where size is one of the requisites; it is also of great merit for its beautiful color, being an apricot with golden shadings. Should be in every exhibition collection. Flowers are produced on stout stems like all the other Marean creations. Average height 5 feet. Not available until 1922.

Price for strong bulb division, \$10

"THE CHOCTAW"

Peony-flowered—Quilled petals; extra large exhibition variety; enormous flowers are carried on long, strong, stiff stems, facing one boldly; a noble flower; name suggested by an Indian Head surrounded by feathered headgear, which it resembles. Color is a fine pale mahogany. Average height 5 feet.

Price for strong bulb division, \$10

"THE EMPEROR"

**Decorative*—This variety caused quite a stir at the Dahlia Exhibition; its enormous size, its beautiful deep color, the perfect form of the flower and the extra long stem, moved Dahlia enthusiasts to make us extraordinary offers for the possession of a bulb. It will, however, not be available until 1922. It is a maroon of the finest type; the flower is made up of long flat petals; the color does not spot under any weather conditions. It is a magnificent prize-winner of the highest merit. Average height 6 feet. An exceptional variety.

Price for strong bulb division, \$25

"THE MERRY WIDOW"

**Decorative*—Extraordinary flower commanding immediate attention; enormous blooms carried on short stiff stems, held perfectly erect. It is difficult to describe this exhibition flower; the main coloring is clear yellow; this is suffused with a pleasing shade of red but so combined as to make a most handsomely colored Dahlia. The exhibition of this flower created great excitement at the recent shows; it is unquestionably a notable introduction; the plants are very vigorous; a valuable variety surely. Not available until 1922.

Price for strong bulb division, \$10

"THEODORA BUCKLEY"

Decorative—Another superb September Dahlia selected by the Judge for its great merit. The flowers are large; the stems are strong and stout; the color is a fine deep pink; is at its best after September 15th. Average height 4 feet.

Price for strong bulb division, \$10

"THE RED PLANET"

**Decorative*—Very large flower carried on strong stout stem, held erect. The petals of this flower are extra broad; the color is a brick red, suffused yellow. A very fine Show Dahlia and splendid in the garden. Average height 4 feet. Not available until 1922.

Price for strong bulb division, \$10

"VENUS"

Decorative—This is again a very lovely variety, large flowers being produced freely on strong stiff stems. While it is most attractive in the garden, its special value is for cut flowers. Considered by many exhibitors and Dahlia experts as one of the most meritorious varieties. The color is a soft beautiful shade of creamy white with lavender suffusion. Extra fine grower. Average height 4 feet.

Price for strong bulb division, \$10



©Mrs. I. de Ver Warner

Varieties which fall a little short of those in the other Class but are yet worthy associates, differing only as great ability differs from genius.

“AUREA”

Decorative—Chrome yellow; very good type and size.
4 to 5 feet.

Price per strong tuber, \$5

“CARNARVON”

Peony-flowered—Amber, shading to yellow. 5 feet.
Price per strong tuber, \$5

“COMMODORE MALLORY”

Decorative—Bright red; fine flower; strong grower; free
bloomer. 5 feet.
Price per strong tuber, \$5

“DAYBREAK”

Peony-flowered—Soft red; large flower; loose petaled.
5 feet.
Price per strong tuber, \$5

“DAWN”

Decorative—Yellow with orange shadings towards
tips of petals. 5 to 6 feet.
Price per strong tuber, \$5

“EXCELSIOR”

Decorative—Fine orange; free bloomer; flowers stand
perfectly erect on stiff stems. 4 to 5 feet.
Price per strong tuber, \$5

“GENERAL PERSHING”

Peony-flowered—Garnet red with slight yellow shading
at base. 5 feet.
Price per strong tuber, \$5

“GOLDFINCH”

Decorative—Fine yellow, slightly tinted with orange;
very strong grower. 4 to 5 feet.
Price per strong tuber, \$5

“JOHN HARDING”

Hybrid-Show—Interesting purple, large flowers on
strong stems; robust grower. 4 to 5 feet.
Price per strong tuber, \$5

“MARION WELLER”

Decorative—Chrome yellow with darker shadings;
very fine; free bloomer. 4 feet.

Price per strong tuber, \$5

“MRS. CRAGIE”

Peony-flowered—Canary yellow; very free bloomer.
3 to 4 feet.

Price per strong tuber, \$5

“MRS. WILSON”

Peony-flowered—Brick red with distinct vein of a
lighter shade through centre of each petal. 4
feet.

Price per strong tuber, \$5

“PORTHOS”

Decorative—Red; very vigorous grower; should not be
grown on rich ground as it is liable to show some
hard centers. 4 feet.

Price per strong tuber, \$5

“SEMINOLE”

Decorative—Deep orange; very strong grower produc-
ing fine flowers of good type. 5 feet.
Price per strong tuber, \$5

“STEEPHILL CASTLE”

Peony-flowered—Cerise; very fine variety. 4 to 5
feet.

Price per strong tuber, \$5

“THE NIGGER”

Decorative—Very dark quilled variety; free bloomer;
splendid garden Dahlia. 5 to 6 feet.
Price per strong tuber, \$5

“THE PIRATE”

Decorative—Claret red with clear yellow base; attract-
ive flower of moderate size. 3 to 4 feet.
Price per strong tuber, \$5

*Should you wish to secure some other fine varieties of Dahlias, you may with safety
add them to your selected list; we shall use best care to procure them for you.*



Special Gold Medal
awarded for
Judge J. T. Marean's Dahlia Creations
in
Non-Competitive Exhibit
September, 1920



Left to Right:
Venus© Mephistopheles© Marion Weller©
Peg O'Me Heart©

